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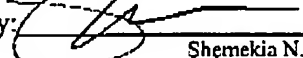
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PATENT
Docket No.: 020144-001512US
Client Ref. No.: IVGN 409.2 CON

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: 
Shemekia N. Brown

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Paul Jedrzejewski, et al.

Application No.: 10/603,339

Filed: June 24, 2003

For: MICROFLUIDIC DEVICES AND
METHODS

Confirmation No.: 2522

Examiner: Brian J. Sines

Art Unit: 1743

RESPONSE -
REQUEST FOR
RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2007, Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of this application in view of the comments that follow.

Claims 18, 19, 56, 57 and 59-61 stand rejected as anticipated by Ershov et al., U.S. patent 5,770,721.

Claim 18, on which the other claims are dependent, is to a dispenser assembly comprising a dispenser chip having a dispenser body with a vertical channel and a sample chip having, among other items, a pillar and a sample surface, wherein the vertical channel of the dispenser chip is cooperatively structured to receive the pillar.

The examiner understands Ershov et al. to disclose such an assembly, wherein a vertical channel of a dispenser chip is structured to receive a pillar (2) of a sample chip.

However, Ershov et al. does not disclose such an assembly. It discloses only a single chip, not a combination of two chips, one designed to receive the other.